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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

DATE:

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SUBJECT Number, Exploitation, and Indoctrination of German PWs

INFO.

DIST.

10 April 1947

PAGES 19

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN

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STATE	WAR	NAVY	JUSTICE	R & E	C & D	AAF	U	V			

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25X1 A.

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German prisoners of war are being put to work on the railroad line. Forty thousand Chinese workers are being replaced by German prisoners of war on the Zima-Tehita (Chita ?) sector. (Zima is located about 400 kilometers west of Lake Baikal).

25X1 B.

1. The Free Germany Committee in Moscow supplied German prisoners in the USSR with German newspapers issued by the Committee. Members of the Committee, themselves PWs, were sent to the camps to act as leaders and to run the internal affairs.

25X1 C.

there are about fifty labor camps in the Kulbyshev region. Each camp houses 1,500-2,000 prisoners. The prisoners are employed in steel mills, saw mills, at road building and rubble clearing

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there are seven camps (housing approximately 10,000 prisoners) situated within an area of 50 sq. km. in the vicinity of Orak on the Ural River. These camps constitute a penal colony similar to the one in the Kazan region.

2. The prisoners are divided into five labor categories, depending on the condition of their health, as follows:

- a. & b. - heavy work
- c. - light work, usually within the camp area
- d. - persons capable of only very light work
- e. - non-workers, primarily hospital cases.

Categories(a) and (b) work eight hours a day in nearby quarries, brick factories, and saw mills, or are employed in building houses. Specialists, such as electricians or mechanics, install equipment and machinery in new heavy industry factories. A bonus system exists; it is based on a work percentage basis. In

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category (a) a 100% work effort in a quarry for a four-man team consists in the production of 1 1/2 cubic meters of building stones in an eight-hour work period, and its delivery to the loading point. For this work the pay is 57 rubles per month. Four men in category (b) are supposed to produce 75% of the work quota of a category (a) team. If the quota is exceeded even by as little as 1%, an extra allowance of 200 grams of bread is issued for that day. Category (c) workers receive 17 rubles per month.

4. Officers, who do not work, have better food and living conditions.
5. The German-language newspaper, Freies Deutschland, and German books and pamphlets, all printed in Moscow, are occasionally distributed in the camps. Political and economic talks are sometimes given by German civilians released from concentration camps, but are not well attended.

25X1 D.

1. Camp 56-1 located outside of Bobruisk, about 150 km southeast of Minsk (the capital of Byelorussian SSR), had accommodations for about 6,000 persons.

2. The prisoners were divided into work groups as follows:

a. & b. - Both these groups worked twelve hours a day. Men in these groups left camp at 5 a.m. for an hour's march to their place of work. They arrived back in camp at 7 p.m. Their duty was to cut wood, do construction work in Bobruisk, and dig peat. Craftsmen found employment at their trades in Bobruisk or in specially equipped workshops in camp.

c. - OK groups (ohne Kraft - without strength) worked in two, four, or six hour shifts and were made up of men who had been hospitalized and were not well enough to do a full day's work.

d. - Prisoners who were unable to work were kept in the hospital.

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3. Each barrack had a propaganda warden selected by the Russians. [redacted] the warden did no manual labor and received double rations. The duty of the warden was to indoctrinate the prisoners in Communist ideology. Das Kapital by Karl Marx was the only Communist textbook available in German. Other Communist literature was of the leaflet kind and of a crude nature. Camera slides dealing with life in Soviet cities and on Soviet farms before the war were frequently shown. There were also instructional diagrams of Soviet mass production of machinery. When a barrack propaganda warden was considered politically sufficiently mature, he was promoted to an "activist" (active member of the Party). The "activists" received special propaganda training prior to their release.

4. Representatives of the National-Komitee Freies Deutschland took charge of the barrack warden and of the "activists", and worked directly under and with the Russian camp commandant. These NKFD representatives planned the indoctrination lectures and coached the "activists" along Communist Party lines. According to the informant, NKFD representatives were equipped with special passes and circulated freely in and out of camp.

25X1 E.

1. The prison camp at Chelyabinsk - a city variously reported as having 350,000, 700,000, and 1,000,000 inhabitants - is apparently decentralized. References are made to its location "in" and "near" the city, as well as in a suburb. Total PW strength is similarly undetermined. [redacted] of

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60,000 inmates, about one-third were Russian political prisoners and two-thirds German PWs. Another describes it as Camp 68-I. [redacted] a PW complement of 4,500 [redacted] were employed digging foundations for new houses and factories.

2. There are numerous industrial works in the Chelyabinsk area, including an automobile-tractor factory employing 25,000 to 30,000 workers, half PWs and half Russian political prisoners. During 1945, [redacted] in October, production of T-34 tanks continued at full speed. Another department produced great numbers of trucks. Machine tools were usually old and of American or English origin. Local civilian inhabitants called this factory and the lead mines not far from the city the "Russian Hermann Goering Works".

"Russian civilians were wondering why the war production was continuing after the end of the war.")

3. ANTIFA propaganda was included in the Chelyabinsk program. Those who appeared to have been converted to Communism were privileged in food, employment, and an earlier return to Germany. Most of this indoctrination took the form of lectures given by Germans who seemed to have been in Russia for some years and had received intensive political training. The main topic was the desirability of Communist aims for the workers of the entire world. The German-language newspaper Freies Deutschland was distributed. All of this [redacted] made no impression on the majority of PWs.

4. The ANTIFA School was reported to be located in a northeastern suburb of Moscow. The curriculum included political and military training. Students were both officers and enlisted men, mostly aged 25 to 45, who had proved themselves as Communists. Three German generals were rumored to be attending the school.

[redacted] Comment: [redacted] "model PW camps near Moscow where officers and PWs were being politically re-educated". [redacted]

"Members of the ANTIFA-Company were ordered to attend the ANTIFA School. The teaching staff consisted of national committee members of Freies Deutschland in Russian uniforms and of German and English-speaking Russian officers. Schooling included lectures, training classes, and self-study, and was based on anti-Fascism and Marxism. The most promising pupils were qualified to take over administration posts. At the end of the lecture course, reports were made by members of the central committee of the KPD. The other Allies were not supposed to gain knowledge of this school, although the achievements of the Allies were officially recognized and their capitalistic make-up deplored.")

5. Camp 63 at Alexino. (Alexin, south of Moscow ?) 4,000 PWs were employed on earth works.
6. Karabowka. A convalescent camp for PWs, near Kazan.
7. Karagana. This camp apparently utilizes some prisoners for work in the coal mines. Informant worked 200 meters below ground. There was no elevator and techniques were primitive.
8. Kazan. A group of PWs arrived in Berlin on 23 November 1945. They had been released from a camp in Kazan on 14 October. There were long stops en route and five out of forty-five men in one car died during the trip. The camp

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held 2,000 to 3,000 Germans, Italians, and Romanians who worked in a typewriter factory, a garage and automobile repair shop, and similar enterprises.

9. Kuschnitzka. PWs were employed on earth works at this camp, 500 kilometers south of Moscow.
10. Histiera. About 300 kilometers east of Moscow, this camp contained some 25,000 German PWs who manufactured bricks by hand.
11. Novorossiisk. [redacted]  
[redacted] All local industrial work was performed by German PWs, with Russians in supervisory and managerial positions.
12. Novosibirsk. The camp was about 250 kilometers east of Novosibirsk. [redacted]  
[redacted]
13. Camp near Orel. The camp itself is not definitely located. About 6,000 German PWs were interned with 3,000 Russian political prisoners, half of them women. Russians with sentences of one to three years of forced labor were employed with PWs in armament factories, mainly in an electrotechnical plant. Hours were 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
14. Orscha. A so-called "death camp" where 2,000 PWs out post and were employed on earth works. Monthly distribution of Freies Deutschland was made and propaganda lectures were given.
15. Orsk. A camp in the Urals where PWs labored on earth works connected with the construction of new armament plants, said to have been begun in 1938. During the expansion, tanks continued to be produced.

25X1 F.

1. The principal political activity in Camp 165, near Vya, niki, was carried on by "activists" - PWs especially appointed after going through the ANTIFA school. They took part in informal discussions and even guided barracks bunk chatter along political lines.
2. An ANTIFA school occupied a separate area of the camp. It had two sessions in the spring and in the fall. Each was of three or four months duration, attended by 800 - 1,000 men at a time. Food at the school was better than in the rest of the camp and students, whose studies constituted full-time work, were freed from normal camp jobs except for one day per week. Sport was organized.
3. The school faculty consisted largely of refugees from the enemy countries who had fled to the USSR before the outbreak of war. Later, PWs who had studied in Moscow were also used as teachers.
4. To qualify for admission, a PW was required to have a good conduct record during his captivity, to have manifested a desire to work, and to have shown a strong interest in political affairs.
5. The school library was larger and better than the usual camp library, and newspapers and radio were available.
6. The ANTIFA school course covered the following subjects:

The development of Prussia  
The teachings of Marx and Engels  
Development of Marx' and Engels' teachings by Lenin and Stalin

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The Russian Revolution  
 Industry and agriculture in the USSR and the Five Year Plans  
 The causes and consequences of the First World War  
 The mistakes of the Weimar Republic  
 Divisions among the German working classes permitting the rise of the Nazis  
 Origins of the Second World War  
 The true nature of the Nazis  
 The question of the war guilt of all Germans  
 German reparations  
 The reconstruction of Germany

7. At the conclusion of the course, both oral and written examinations were given by examiners from Moscow. Those who did best were chosen to be activists and a few, warranted entirely healthy, were selected to go to Moscow for further training. The latter remained in Moscow for varying periods, up to about six months. Those with talent could get artistic training in the capital. Also, "there was a possibility of remaining in the USSR and eventually obtaining Soviet citizenship."
8. Informant was asked to remain (presumably as an activist) by the political instructor of Camp 165, but the camp physician would not permit his retention because of poor health. Not even the camp commander could override the doctor.
9. Officers had separate quarters and better food; but after the end of the war they were required to work like the EM prisoners, received no other special treatment, and had no privileges among the students at the ANTIFA school.

25X1 G.

1. Asbest

A number of factories in and around Asbest, which is said to have increased its population to 200,000, were making spare parts for cars, planes and tanks. PWs employed were segregated from Russian workers.

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6,000 PWs captured near Poznan. On release, PWs were lectured by two political commissars who advised them to remain anti-Fascist and not to forget that the U.S. and British Zones of Germany were occupied by capitalists and imperialists.

2. Briansk

Camps in this area (total unknown) each housed approximately 2,000 PWs. Most inmates worked nine hours daily in a coal mine; they were trained by Hungarian and Romanian PWs who afterwards were transferred. Shop stewards and supervisors were Russians who had worked in Germany during the war as volunteers and were now forced to do compulsory labor as punishment. The newspaper Freies Deutschland was distributed, and PW speakers discussed, among other topics, the rapid reconstruction work and ample food supplies available in the Russian Zone of Germany, comparing this with the insufficient rations and lack of reconstruction in the other zones.

3. Jelen

Town population estimated to be 50,000; PW camp population, 5,000-8,000. PWs worked with Russian political prisoners in a factory making batteries for communications equipment. Maximum production was maintained after

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the end of the war. German officers, including colonels, were housed separately and given the same food as that issued to Russian officers; they were employed as PW supervisors, though only for a short time, over PWs used in outside work. All Group 3 men (those unfit for labor) were released during November.

4. Petrozavodsk, Karelia

The civilian population had been evacuated. The main PW camp contained 1,000 of approximately 12,000 men who were employed in clearing and reconstruction work on destroyed factories. Some PWs were later put to work in the factories, but informant saw no indication of the manufacture of war material. In early November, 1,600 Group 3 PWs [redacted] were released and shipped to Frankfurt a.d. Oder.

5. Tyumen

A new large factory near Tyumen was making armored tanks [redacted]  
[redacted] Richard Book, German expert on tank construction, was alleged to be employed there.

[redacted] Comment: Richard Book, gear-wheel expert, former technical director of the Berlin-Wittenau plant of the Zahnradfabrik Friedrichshafen, worked during the final days of the war as head of the expert groups in the Industrie Sector Getriebe fuer Panzerwagen. [redacted]  
[redacted]

6. Chelyabinsk

[redacted] an increase of workers in the Chelyabinsk tractor plant, estimating the total to be 15,000-25,000. Dismantled German plants were being rapidly reassembled, the majority being foundries, steel-rolling mills, wire factories and carriage shops.

7. Ulianovsk: Camp 216

About 2,500 PWs were reported to have died of dysentery, typhoid, and under-nourishment at this camp (its capacity is 6,000) during the last eight months. The men first rebuilt factories; later they worked in the woods. An unknown number of metal industry plants in the Ulianovsk region were turning out parts for armored tanks and heavy artillery.

25X1 H.

1. Krasuiluch, Camp 10. In the Voroshilovgrad district. 1,500 enlisted PWs, October 1945.
2. Hakiovka, Labor Battalion 1056. PWs and civilian internees from Upper Silesia totaling 800 were in this camp near Stalino in October 1945. They worked in the coal mines on two shifts: 0800-1600 hours and 1600-2300 hours.
3. Nishni Tagil. PWs worked in a tank factory near the camp. Some were asked to volunteer for the Red Army in the Far East; many signed application blanks, but the termination of the war against Japan canceled the offer. 3,000-5,000 PWs, October 1945.
4. Nishni Novgorod. Forestry and road building were the main occupations of 1,800 men in this installation.

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5. Kustrin. 1,800 PWs, November 1945.
6. Landsberg. 18,000 officers and EM, September 1945.
7. Zittau. Turned over to the Poles in September 1945, at which time the camp held 17,000 officer and enlisted PWs.
8. Alabsk, Ural: Camp 200/8. 250 enlisted PWs, no officers (October 1945).
9. Arkhangelsk, Camp 211. 3,000 PWs. (October 1945).
10. Kerch. In 1944 there were 36,000 PWs at this camp. Some were employed in an aircraft factory. Work hours were 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. [redacted] Red Cross commissions were shown only the model camps (presumably those set up for ANTIFA recruits).
11. Naikop (Caucasus). 2,500 enlisted PWs (October 1945). Two German language pamphlets were circulated among the prisoners: Der rote Stern and Der sozialistische Aufbau.
12. Novosibirsk, Camp 2. There were 23 camps; camp 2 contained 3,000 PWs (October 1945). Prisoners worked in plants producing spare parts for T-34 tanks. There were some twenty industrial plants in the city area.
13. Novo-Vitebsk. [redacted] Novo-Vitebsk factory manufacturing small arms of all types and sizes. The monthly output amounted to 30,000 pieces. [redacted] Comment: This figure probably applies only to the one section of the factory [redacted] of 5,000 employees, 2,000 were PWs who worked eight hours per day. Their daily ration consisted of 300 grams of bread, 100 grams of meat, and forty grams of sugar. Several other large plants were located in the area, employing up to 25,000 men.
14. Orsk, Camp 260. 1,700 enlisted PWs. (October 1945).
15. Resh (Ural). Situated about six kilometers from Resh on the Moscow-Vladivostok railroad line. [redacted] 3,000 PWs, worked as a mason on a new factory scheduled to be finished and in operation by April 1946. [redacted] from the shape of the building; and various machine tools [redacted] cannon would be made.
16. Rubisnoye, in the Donetsk district, Voroshilovgrad. PWs worked in nearby coal mines. [redacted]
17. Saratov. 2,000 PWs (October 1945). Prisoners worked in a tank factory in three shifts.
18. Tushino. Near Moscow. 4,000 EM prisoners (October 1945).
19. Ulianovsk, Camp 215. On the west bank of the Volga, north of Samara (Kuibyshev). 3,000 EM prisoners (November 1945) employed on the construction of an automobile factory.
20. Urahunka, near Slatovsk, Chelyabinsk district. 2,500 PWs (October 1945).
21. Vologda, Camp 193-B. Located about 150 kilometers from Vologda. 1,000 EM prisoners (October 1945).

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22. Riga Camp 2. 12,000 officer and enlisted PWs (November 1945). Two propaganda lectures per week were given by German civilians who had been concentration camp inmates. PWs were told they would be released immediately if they volunteered for two years in Russia as free workers.

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1. The camp at Krasnogorsk (No. 26), about 30 kms southwest of Moscow, comprised three separate sub-camps, two of which hold 5,000 men each and the third 3,000 men. The latter is a "penal camp" and persons sent there are employed exclusively on felling trees under especially severe conditions.
2. Until recently there was another camp at Krasnogorsk, which was numbered 27, where Field-Marshal Paulus and General Schoernor had been staying. This camp has been transferred, together with its inhabitants, to an unknown destination.
3. Some of the prisoners from Camp No. 26 and No. 27 near Krasnogorsk were engaged on the erection of a large aviation factory near the town of Krasnogorsk.
4. The Freies Deutschland organization has been officially disbanded, but periodicals of this organization are still being issued in the same form and under the same titles. It appeared that the PWs did not know that the organization had been disbanded.
5. PWs regarded as Communists perform minor guard duties and are employed on work inside the camps. In addition, they have a little more personal freedom than the others.

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J.

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1. [redacted] between 500 and 600 German PWs were detained at this date at Camp 34 in or near Balshikha, 30-40 km. east of Moscow (directly on the Line 38° E).
2. The camp was clean and well organized. Food rations were adequate. Six former German officers were in charge, under a Soviet commissar.
3. An ANTIFA group was founded in September 1945 and six PWs were sent on to Moscow for further indoctrination in this line. In May 1946, a theater group was initiated among the prisoners and the camp was supplied with German books.
4. A weekly newspaper in German, Nachrichten für Kriegsgefangene, contained news of Germany. Emphasis was laid on reconstruction, the resumption of industrial activity; and the good food situation in the Russian Zone was compared with starvation and the complete stalemate in the other zones. Repeated attacks were made on the SPD, especially Dr. Schumacher, and there were also accounts of the reactionary militarist stronghold existing in the western part of Germany.
5. No political instruction or speeches were given to PWs immediately before their departure.

25X1 K.

1. There are more than 6,000 prisoners of war in the Prisoner Camp No. 57 in Nuremberg. As they are at some distance from their places of employment, they are temporarily accommodated in so-called "sub-camps" located near their place of work. They are, nevertheless, considered as belonging to the Camp No. 57.

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2. The camp contains only Germans and Austrians. The latter were promised as early as autumn of 1945 that they would be released, but nothing has, so far, been done to carry out these promises.
3. In 1946 the two nationalities were separated, and each was allowed to publish its own camp news-sheets. National antagonism is, thus, being fostered by the Russians and subsequently exploited for their own ends. In order to extract better work from the PWs, the food ration was increased last March.
4. Prisoners of war work officially eight hours per day, but the Soviets demand a "further voluntary" contribution of two hours' labor daily. Soviet propaganda organs then advertize this as the workers' demonstration of democratic co-operation against Fascism. Prisoners have been promised additional pay for this extra labor but, so far, this promise has not been fulfilled.
5. The Soviets, to show good-will, occasionally send home a prisoner who, during indoctrination, has manifested a "suitable democratic attitude".
6. The Russians are said to have a most definite purpose for infiltrating the British and American Zones of Occupation in Germany with well-trained and tested Communist elements. These people are extremely well-trained and are provided with detailed tasks, which include the fostering of unrest, chaos, and dissatisfaction with a view to Communizing the Reich. Work is in hand also to bring about the Communizing of other countries, such as Hungary and Romania. The most unsatisfactory results, so far, in this work have been obtained by the Russians in Italy. As they lack Italian nationals who are likely to prove entirely reliable agents for their campaign, the Russians have trained Germans, originating from among the German minorities in Northern Italy (as well as in other countries) who are well-acquainted with the local language and conditions.
7. It should be noted that the "new democrats" thus dispatched are provided with "original" and water-tight "authentic" documents in perfect order.

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Dniepropetrovsk

1. Camps 1 to 7. These camps held 5-7,000 men, officers, and EN. PWs were employed on farm, railroad, and bridge projects.

Cherepovetz

2. Camp 437. PWs were employed on a variety of jobs: forestry, pipe laying, dismantling, and brick cleaning. Insufficient food weakened the men and only some 400 of a quota of 600 bricks could be cleaned daily. Twenty-five percent of the PWs are said to have died during the winter of 1945. Those expected to die were removed to a city general hospital.
3. Water pipes were laid four meters underground; the excavation work was done with hammers and chisels. Those in Category I were assigned to lay one cubic meter per day; Category II, three-fourths of a cubic meter; and Category III, half a cubic meter. An additional ration of fifty grams of bread was issued if the assignment was fulfilled.
4. A four-hour political indoctrination course was given every evening; by Germans captured at Stalingrad, converted in Moscow, and generally termed "Politruks" by PWs. There were also some imported Germans who extolled the KPD and SED as well as the fine state of reconstruction in the Russian Zone.

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5. The PW camp was located in the woods. Its inmates were engaged in forestry, street construction, railroad and bridge repair work.

Tarbov

6. [redacted] 20,000 PWs [redacted] were permitted to live near their work sites during the last few months. Only some 100 sick and incapacitated prisoners remained in the camp proper. PWs were employed in two small ball bearing plants, in forestry, in peat beds, on roads, and on the reconstruction of a power station.
7. Orientation lectures were given by ANTI-FA speakers who played up the progress made in the Russian Zone of Germany.

Moscow

8. Camps 90a, 90b, 90c. Those camps, in the vicinity of Moscow, housed 6,000 PWs each; officers and men lived together. (No date is supplied on this information, but it is believed to refer to late 1945.)

Tula

9. Camp 200. [redacted] the camp held 400 Germans, including 15 officers, 30 male civilians, and 200 female civilians; the latter were penned in a separate enclosure. PWs worked with Russian civilians (not forced labor gangs) on railroad construction and housing and in a brick factory.
10. Aside from a few talks on the SED by a political commissar and the distribution of speeches by Wilhelm Pieck, there was no indoctrination of prisoners. A two-page publication, News for German Prisoners, was issued irregularly and reached the camp about a month after its Moscow release date. No other literature was available. Three films were shown, and in May 1946 a PW dramatic group was permitted to function.
11. The repatriation transport, consisting of 600 PWs, left Moscow on 15 July 1946, via Smolensk, Minsk, Brest-Litovsk, and Warsaw and arrived at Frankfurt a/o on 3 August. The men were greeted by a reception committee, including a man with a microphone who waved forward three well-dressed, healthy looking strangers who had not traveled with the authentic PWs but were interviewed as such.

Kharkov

12. Camp 318. [redacted] about 1,500 [redacted] PWs, on road work for ten hours daily.

Leningrad

13. Camp 157. This camp is situated about 20 km east of the city. About June 1945, inmates numbered 6,000-7,000, of whom approximately 2,800-3,000 died up to July 1946. Present strength is not reported. PWs mined aluminum, worked in the forests and on land reclamation. Soviet civilians were employed as foremen. The work day was ten hours, with one free Sunday per month.

Murmansk

14. The top strength of this camp was 6,000; the present number of PWs is unknown. The chief labor was railway construction. Political lectures were held twice weekly and generally were delivered by German ANTI-FA men.

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Nizhni-Tagil

15. Although some PWs here were employed in the tank factory, others loaded coal or built bridges and roads. Those who exceeded their work quotas were paid up to 200 rubles, with which it was possible to buy U.S. canned milk (60 rubles) on the black market. Out-going mail was dispatched every three months, but only working PWs were allowed to write letters or cards.

25X1 M.

1. During May 1946, Soviet agents with officer's rank twice visited Communist Party Headquarters at Freiburg-im-Breisgau to recruit for service in Russia former Wehrmacht officers, Hitler Youth leaders, and students barred from the universities for Nazi activities.
2. Contact having been established by the local Communists, the Soviet agents invited the volunteers to go to Russia (via Berlin) for two or three years of "advanced study". Upon being questioned, they explained that the volunteers would be employed in training German PWs for police duties in Russian-occupied Europe. Although officially entitled "Reconstruction Groups", these new formations would be strictly military and would be largely staffed by "Freies Deutschland" officers, in particular, Generals von Paulus and von Seydlitz.
3. After two or three years' service with these units, the volunteers would be free either to take up a commission in the new German Police Corps or to continue their studies at one of the universities in the Russian Zone of Germany.
4. This Russian offer has been widely discussed in both Communist and Nazi circles in Freiburg.

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1. While the numerous prisoners of war in the Stalingrad area are employed in reconstruction work, none are employed in the two tank factories - "Red Banner" and "Red October" - located in the area. The latter factory is reported to be producing armored plates for tanks. Comment: A current report confirms the use of PWs to rebuild Stalingrad, and that factories in the area are still turning out war material.)
2. Three thousand PWs in a camp near Scherebinsk (possibly Chelyabinsk) are reported to be working in a plant presumably producing rifle parts.
3. Prisoners in the camps near Insterburg, in East Prussia, are employed to change the railroad tracks to the Russian gauge and to load machinery, including agricultural implements, for shipment to Russia. These PWs are reported to be undernourished and performing only a fraction of their normal capacity because of failing strength.

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1. There is a German corps in the Russian Army, though not directly at the front, but acting as a police corps or in other auxiliary tasks. This corps is composed chiefly of the German Vth Army men (the Paulus Army that surrendered at Stalingrad) and includes also others that surrendered later. The German soldiers are under German officers.
2. The prisoners who surrender now to the Russians are divided into two categories:
  - a. The Gestapo men: these are kept in special camps and have no contact

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with the rest of the German PWs.

- b. All the rest who may choose to enter the army in German troops under German officers, or to work for the Russian (many do), or to stay in camps with no work to do. Only a few stay in such camps and these not for long because of the inadequate feeding and bad conditions, generally, of these camps. Most of the men finally decide to work or to enlist.

5. Special care is taken to select all the engineers and physicians from among the German prisoners. The engineers and physicians are sent into Russia to work according to their specialty.

25X1 P. [REDACTED]

1. German units of the Red Army, referred to as "followers of Seydlitz" [REDACTED] are reported among the Russian troops being moved from Bohemia-Moravia to Germany, and especially Saxony. It is said that these men will be permitted to vote in elections and that the Russians count on this vote to assist the SPD. [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] as of April 1946 that "several" Russian units, including tank and AA groups, in the Frankfurt-am-Oder and Oder River regions, consisted of German soldiers in Russian uniform. These formations were said to boast such names as Division Liebknecht, Brigade Thälmann, etc.)

25X1 Q. [REDACTED]

1. A fairly reliable source reports that some of the 7,000 German officers in the Soviet Union under the leadership of von Seydlitz and von Daniels are trickling back into Germany, where they receive important posts in the German administration. There is an unconfirmed rumor to the effect that they may be used to form a German Red Army.

25X1 R. [REDACTED]

1. General Paulus' German troops are being organized within the framework of the Red Army in the USSR. The headquarters of Paulus' army was recently stationed in Moscow and its most important unit concentration is in the region of Kharkov. At the same time, smaller concentrations of German units were noted near Kiev and in the Smolensk region. One German regiment was stationed in Barnica near Kiev. [REDACTED] Comment: According to information contained in a previous report, the unit is the First Infantry Regiment of General von Paulus' Army.)
2. These units are reinforced with recruits originating from the former colonies of the so-called "Volga Germans". This measure is interpreted [REDACTED] as a Soviet safeguard in case Anglo-American authorities protest the maintenance of German troops in the USSR.

25X1 S. [REDACTED]

1. General Graf has been put in charge of all Soviet schools for the training of the German "Freiheitsarmee". In this organization Lt. Col. Hartmann, famous ex-Luftwaffe pilot, heads several squadrons; Col. van Hoven heads the Signal Corps; and Lt. Col. I. G. Lewiss-Lietzmann is prominent in the Air Force section.

2. [REDACTED] efforts to recruit German PWs for a German unit of the Red Army were halted in May 1945. Such enlistments were voluntary and no Germans were accepted for the Red Army proper.

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25X1 T.

- 25X1 1. It has been reported that all of the Wehrmacht officers held by the Soviets in Oranienburg PW Camp have been transferred in a body to the east.

25X1

25X1 U.

- 25X1 1. It has been reported that the German Admirals Solwächter and Witzel are directing submarine training courses at Russian military academies.
2. General Rudolf Bamler is reported to be cooperating with the Russian general staff in the redeployment of Paulus' troops in the Russian Zone and in Poland.

25X1 V.

1. At the Antifa School located at PW Camp 165 in Vyazniki near Gorki, the students are known as Kursanten. All graduates are required to pledge allegiance to the Communist Party ideals and goals.
2. Five hundred of these Kursanten are said to have been released at the Soviet discharge center, Frankfurt/Oder, in early September 1946.
3. One of the teachers of the camp school is Koenen, a former KPD member of the Reichstag.

25X1 W.

1. Major General Georg Postel, who was on Halder's Staff during the war and was captured by the Russians, is now in the Baltic area, training both German PWs and young Germans from East Prussia and the former Baltic states for service with the Soviet Army. He has under his command enough regiments to form two divisions.

25X1 X.

1. Germans who work in the Panstwowa Fabryka Tagonow in Wroclaw (formerly the Linke-Hoffman Plant in Breslau) told informant that any German who declares himself to be a Communist can count on a good position and the full support of the Soviet authorities.
2. Some former Wehrmacht officers are being released from PW camps and transferred to camps near Moscow, where they remain under the command of Paulus.

25X1 Y.

1. Ulrich, Burgomeister of Bautzen, was an officer in the Wehrmacht-Heer, deserted, joined the Seydlitz Army, returned with the entry of the Russians, was given his appointment by them, and holds the rank of Major in the Red Army.
2. Dr. Linzer, head dermatologist at Dresden (Friedrichstadt Hospital), holds the rank of Major in the Red Army.

25X1 Z.

1. In early January 1947, General Nadolny, former German Ambassador to Russia, saw the senior Russian authority. During the conversation a suggestion was made to establish a "Foreign Office or Foreign Politics Liaison Office" of non-party Germans.

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2. Nadolny, it was hinted, was persona grata with the Russians and a possible future candidate for German Foreign Minister.

3. If Nadolny is willing, the Russians would arrange for the release of any interned individuals whom he would request for his staff.

the following table showing the location and strength of PW camps in the USSR.

2. It was the consensus that Japanese PWs were treated better than the Germans, and that Japanese officers were permitted to keep rank insignia.

Number	Location	Strength
17-31	Rosslave (near Smolensk)	800 EM
23-4	Bukarotitshe	700 EM
27-2	Krasnogorsk (SW Moscow)	3,000 O and EM
31	Kiselovka	1,800 EM
31-61	Mohilev	800 EM
41	Ostashkovitch (Waldai)	600 EM
41-3	Ostashkovitch	400 EM
42	Moshaisk (30 km W Moscow)	2,200 O and EM
50-91	Cherebovitch (NW Moscow)	Unknown
* 56-1	Minsk	2,000 O and EM
56-2	Bobruisk	
57-71	Ureobinsk (300 km NW Stalingrad)	600 EM
58	Pensa (Mortwyna, SW Moscow)	2,000 O and EM
59-51	Kirshenov (130 km SW Moscow)	2,800 EM - 200 Jap. O
64	Morshansk	3,200 German O, 4,000 Jap. O
87	Kolonna	54 EM
90-8	Vladimir (200 km E Moscow)	1,500 EM
107-1	Kaluga	1,400 O and EM
110-12	Korosten (near Whitomir)	900 EM
117-1	Gorki	1,000 O and EM
145-7	Syelgorod	500 EM
158-1	Cherebovitch	7,000 O and EM
159-461	Odessa	Unknown
168	Minsk	2,000 O and EM
183	Borissov (near Minsk)	2,500 O and EM
188	Tanbov	3,000 Jap. O - 200 German O
190-29	Vladimir	600 O and EM
212-13	Bezgesha	400 EM
215	Ulianovsk	2,500 EM
216	Volotshek (near Kalinin)	800 O and EM
218	Smolensk	4,000 O and EM
252-1	Prishitza (near Bryansk)	4,000 O and EM
271	Vitebsk	400 EM
282-2	Voronesh	2,000 O and EM
284	Brest Litovsk	400 O and EM
315-1	Dnieprovosshinsk	1,400 O and EM
315-9	Dniepropetrovsk	1,900 O and EM
316-1	Kalinin	1,000 O and EM
323-5	Tula	1,900 O and EM
323-18	Tula	1,000 EM
417-5	Novomoscow	1,000 O and EM
445-12	Insterburg	1,000 O and EM
** 448-1	Montshirkorsk (near Murmansk)	2,800 O and EM
462	Odessa	300 EM
474	Minsk	1,800 O and EM

45 Total No. Camps

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74,854 Total No. PWs

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
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Number	Location	Strength
* 50-1	Rochitsa	800 O and EM
62-4	Kiev	3,500 O and EM
74	Oranki (Gorki area)	3,500 O and EM; 75 German O
82-1	Voronezh	1,900 O and EM
84-1	Asbest, Ural	3,000 O and EM
84-6	Asbest, Ural	1,200 EM
100-5	Zaporozhe	800 O and EM
100-3	Zaporozhe	3,000 O and EM
100-8	Zaporozhe	600 O and EM
101-2	Kirov	700 O and EM
107-3	Lutinovo (Kaluga area)	1,200 O and EM
107-6	Kaluga	600 O and EM
108-2	Stalingrad	2,400 O and EM
108-17	Stalingrad	1,700 O and EM
108-16	Stalingrad	1,200 O and EM
117-7	Gorki	600 O and EM
119	Zhelenodolsk	1,500 O and EM
126	Nikolajev	8,000 O and EM
126-2	Nikolajev	1,000 O and EM
126-4	Nikolajev	400 O and EM
130-7	Asha	800 O and EM
134-1	Nikolaitshkaya	1,000 O and EM
136	Poltava	1,200 O and EM
143-1	Nizhni Tagil	4,000 O and EM
144-9	Beromaika (Stalino area)	1,800 O and EM
144-12	Voroshilovgrad	1,800 EM
148-5	Armavir	2,500 O and EM
148-16	Armavir	1,200 O and EM
149-11	Kharkov	2,500 O and EM
153	Nizhni Tagil	10,000 O and EM
153-1	Nizhni Tagil	4,000 O and EM
153-5	Nizhni Tagil	2,000 O and EM
157	Minsk	1,000 O and EM
163-A	Stalingrad North	2,500 O and EM
166	Paliskina (120 km west of Gorki)	5,000 O and EM
166	Pitarenda (near Petrosevodsk)	1,200 O and EM
168-1	Kamyshin	2,000 O and EM
178	Riazanj (NE Moscow)	4,000 O and EM
185	Kineshma	3,500 O and EM
217-11	Stalino	550 EM
231	Kiselovka	1,800 O and EM
232	Stryj	1,800 O and EM
242	Gorlavka (Hospital)	600 O and EM
242-11	Gorlavka	1,000 EM
241-5	Sevastopol	800 O and EM
241-11	Sevastopol	1,200 EM
217-9	Krematovsk (Stalino area)	800 O and EM
252	Bereshitza	3,000 O and EM
252-5	Bereshitza	1,200 O and EM
259-2	Ribinsk	1,200 O and EM
270-15	Hovgorod	3,000 O and EM
276-14	Lvov (Lemberg)	700 O and EM
280-18	Roia (Stalino)	2,500 O and EM
281	Volkovisk (Minsk area)	1,000 O and EM
285-7	Velikie Luki	1,800 EM
291	Ogre (Latvia)	3,000 O and EM
292-3	Dunaburg (Latvia)	2,000 O and EM

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
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Number	Location	Strength
307-7	Oritshi	1,000 O and EM
313-5	zerbest (Ural)	2,000 O and EM
315-2	Dnipropropetrovsk	6,000 O and EM
315-7	Dnipropropetrovsk	1,500 O and EM
324-7	Ivanovo	300 O and EM
326-1	Bryansk	1,000 O and EM
326-2	Bryansk	1,200 O and EM
327-1	Novozibkov	500 O and EM
327-2	Novzibkov	450 O and EM
327-3	Novozibkov	500 O and EM
352-5	Stalingrad	1,300 O and EM
361-6	Stalingrad	1,200 O and EM
362-4	Stalingrad	400 O and EM
362-6	Stalingrad	2,500 O and EM
363-1	Murmansk	1,000 O and EM
371-1	Ishevsk (Ural)	2,000 O and EM
392	Ivov (Lemberg)	varying (Transient)
405	Stalino	350 EM
437	Cherebovitz	5,000 O and EM
** 448	Montshikorsk	3,500 O and EM
449	Kovel	600 EM
452	Stalino	700 O and EM
464	Kupjansk	200 O and EM
503-H	Kemerovo	1,100 O and EM
525-1	Stalinsk (Novosibirsk)	1,000 O and EM
525-16	Stalinsk	400 O and EM

Hospitals

1149	Zaporozhie	400 O and EM
1691	Volsk	500 EM
1952	Kirov	700 EM
2738	Kuznisk (Pensa area)	1,000 EM
2916	Patshelma (Pensa area)	500 EM
3169	Valyoaki (Kirov area)	600 EM
3171	Voroshnitza	2,000 EM
3318	Simferopol	1,200 O and EM
3604	Zaperhova (Kursk area)	600 EM
3628	Chershinsk (Stalino area)	80 EM
3631	Saratov	1,000 EM
3840	Komsomolsk (Ivanovo)	700 O and EM
3888	Noksha	800 O and EM
5131	Atkarsk (Saratov)	800 EM
5367	Kharkov	500 O and EM
5379	Gorki	400 Officers
5384	Alaxin (Tula area)	200 EM
5385	Tula	600 EM
5998	Stryj	1,000 O and EM
6029	Shisekeve	1,400 O and EM

DB.

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SMA intends to send 28,000 former PW's into the western zones in the near future to carry on political propaganda work. These men have been especially trained for this work. Some will be sent as PW's returning home and others as refugees from the east. The SMA authorities are reported to have said that the big Russian propaganda offensive in Germany is just ready to begin.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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25X1 CC. [REDACTED]

1. The German Officer's Union, under the guidance of Generals Paulus and Seydlitz, was transformed at the end of 1945 into a center for political and military study with its headquarters located at Detskoe Selo, south of Leningrad.
2. This organization controls about 100,000 German PWs in Russia, who are located at the following training camps:

Detskoe Selo  
 Leninsky (Peterhof) (for Air Corps personnel)  
 Kalininsk (Petrozavodsk)  
 Sestroretsk  
 Krasnod  
 Krasnoarmeisk (Yalta)  
 Rassobv (probably)

3. A General Staff, consisting of about 700 German officers, was formed at Detskoe Selo at the beginning of 1946. Of these, about 100 were sent to Russian military formations in January 1946. Treatment, pay, accommodations, and rations are almost as good as for the Russian officer counterpart.

25X1 DD. [REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] a Russian PW lager called "Moscow No. 2", located to the southeast of and in visible distance of Moscow. From May 1945 to November 1945, prisoners were quartered in small huts, after which time stone and wooden barracks were built. The central lager, housing approximately 5,600 officers, was divided into about 50 islands, each consisting of from 100 to 200 men. The highest ranking prisoner officer of each island was the island commander. Subject was commander of island No. 10, which held from 120 to 180 second lieutenants, from 18 to 20 years of age. Until November 1945, all PW's received food ration No. 12, which permitted a daily diet of 100 grams bread and 1/2 liter of watery soup.

2. In November 1945, PW's had the opportunity of joining a political school, called the "Anti-Fascist" school, which automatically placed them in food group No. 2. The food ration in group No. 2 was: 1 corn bread, 10 grams butter, 3 liters heavy soup, and 175 grams of meat. During the first week at the Anti-Fascist school, only short courses were taught, at the conclusion of which tests were given to determine who was susceptible to the theories of the course. According to the scores attained on this test, the prisoners were divided into 3 standard groups: Those who were highly qualified to grasp the course, those semi-qualified, and those who were hopeless. [REDACTED] In order to enhance the spirit in Group No. 2, special food was issued, which included extra rations of tobacco, bread, meat, etc.

3. Approximately three periods during the week, from 0800 to 1400, the prisoners were driven to the University of Moscow in closed trucks, where school was held in the auditoriums. Courses were taught by twelve MVD commissars, former German Jews, who spoke in accent-free German. They wore uniforms with green lapel insignia. The name of the leader of the Anti-Fascist school was Passilov, who lectured two times per week on private and state capitalism. Other teachers were: Karochilov, who lectured once each week on free worker's conditions; Dimitrov, who lectured on the difference between Nazism and Bolshevism; Yessola, who taught a course on ground reforms; Glasov, who lectured on the difference between a coalition government and the one party system. In addition to these main political professors, there were less important ones who taught general subjects. During the week, there were special reading hours, at which time discussions on Lenin, Marx, etc., were led by Russian officers. Once during the course, the famous German author, Dr. Friedrich Wolff, who resides in Berlin, visited the political school in Moscow and there lectured the students on why he became a Communist and why he believes in Communism.

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4. [ ] the course [ ] lasted six months [ ]
- There were no final tests, but marks were taken during the weekly discussions and compositions were written by the students. The group with the highest grades was immediately released and was permitted to go home after being requested by the Russians to act as political agents for Communism. The middle group of students was sent to the French Zone of Germany to work in the coal mines. [ ] the Russians and the French had an agreement whereby German PW's from Russia were sent as slave labor to work in mines in the French Zone of Germany. The group of students with the lowest marks was officially sent to Leningrad, although what occurred to them there is not known.

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5. The Commander of the lager "MOSCOW No. 2" was Peter Yarochoilov, a Russian colonel with the usual red and gold shoulder straps. [ ]
- [ ] The Camp "Moscow No. 2" was guarded by soldiers of the Seydlitz group, members of the "Committee for Free Germany".

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EE. [ ]

1. "Moscow No. 2" camp for German PW's is located to the southeast of Moscow and is within visible distance of the city. During the period [ ] the Commander of "Moscow No. 2" was Peter Yarochoilov, a Russian colonel. The lager was guarded by soldiers of the Seydlitz group — members of the "Committee for Free Germany". The chief of this group is still General Seydlitz. The group presently contains approximately 120,000 men, most of whom were taken prisoners at Stalingrad. The whole Seydlitz group lives in a special city near Moscow named Voroshilovgrad. Members of the group wear Russian officers' uniforms with special patches. The members of the group obtain the regular rations of Russian officers and also their monetary allowance. They have a completely free life and their only two duties are to guard the camp "Moscow No. 2" and to put agents into the PW enclosure. The Soviet Army treats the Seydlitz group as brothers. Many members of the group have learned to speak Russian fluently and have had maximum political training. General von Paulus, a member of the Seydlitz Group, visits the camp often.

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2. Every island commander [ ] carried a pistol to protect himself from rioting camp inmates. There was much fighting going on between the Seydlitz group and the camp inmates. The GPU (sic) soldiers aided the Seydlitz Group. A prominent personality in the camp was Heinz Kaemmerer, former address Duesseldorf. His rank in the German Army was that of lieutenant colonel, and the Russians gave him a rank of full colonel.

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3. In January 1946, approximately ten German officers, with whom the school training had been a great success, were released from the camp. These officers were given a trunkful of clothes, a very large amount of money, and were ordered into all four zones of Germany to act as political agents for Communist parties in the coming elections. Those officers were from 19 to 21 years of age and, since they had seen very little of life, were easily impressed. [ ] the general opinion at the camp was that the Communist theory was wonderful and was the only one possible but that, when Russian people were seen, the poor living conditions and general lack of many necessities to which Germans were accustomed as a matter of course caused considerable disillusionment.

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FF. [ ]

#### Return of 120,000 German Prisoners of War from Russia

The following information is derived from a report made in the Department of Health in the Russian Central Administration on 16 July 1946 for the departmental members in charge of returning prisoners of war. The report was made in connection with the announcement that Russia was going to allow 120,000 prisoners of war to return to their homes between 20 July and 15 October, 1946.

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1. Daily arrivals beginning on 20 July will total 1,500 men until the total of 120,000 has been achieved. These are German prisoners of war who are unfit for work and therefore of no use to the Soviet Union. Sixty thousand men are expected to need permanent hospitalization upon arrival, among them a large number of mentally deranged.
2. These returnees will be taken first to the Horn-Barracks in Frankfurt/Oder. From there they will be sent to the quarantine camp, Kronenfelde, in Frankfurt/Oder. The Chief of the Division of Medicine, Dr. Bermann, pointed out that this was not a hygienic quarantine camp but a last political orientation center before the prisoners are released. The political training here is given by German Communists, not Russians, and the entire camp is administered by Germans. From this quarantine camp, the men are to be sent to infirmaries and hospitals or released for return to their homes.

25X1

CC. [REDACTED]

1. Of the 50,000 PW's scheduled to arrive in Germany from the USSR between 15 July and 15 August, 15,000 had been returned by 13 August. Approximately ten percent require medical treatment. The intellectual level is said to be lower than average. [REDACTED] none of these men received any political training during captivity. There are about seven officers per 1000 men among the returnees. Many of the officers are from the medical corps and none of them held a rank higher than lieutenant.

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2. Most of the returnees were gradually moved eastward during their captivity until they reached mining camps in the Urals. Mortality rates were highest in these mining camps.

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3. [REDACTED] the PW's there are used in the construction of new cities. In his camp there were 5,000 youths, 14-17 years old, from the Province of Brandenburg. The death rate was high because of hard work and insufficient rations. [REDACTED] there are 4,000 youths missing from the former "Sudetengau".

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III. [REDACTED]

1. A Soviet officer of the Repatriation Mission in Paris stated, under the influence of alcohol, that the former army of Generals von Paulus and von Seydlitz, formed in the USSR in the beginning of 1943 and numbering 140,000 effectives at the beginning of 1945, has not been dissolved.
2. In the course of a leave spent at Kuibyshev in April 1946, this Soviet officer met many officers of this army who were of Baltic origin and who wore Soviet uniforms. Most of the contingents were in the Totskoo camp and in certain other camps which had sheltered Poles of the Anders Army. According to these officers, the Seydlitz Army now numbers 100,000 men, since many of the members have already been sent by small boats to Germany, where they serve in various civil and semi-military capacities in the Russian Zone (police, etc.).
3. The German contingents in the USSR are very well treated but they complain of the very severe restrictions on their correspondence with Germany. They are authorized on rare occasions to send home a printed card, which they can only sign and which states only that they are in good health, well nourished, and well treated.

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SECRET 25X [REDACTED]

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